

June 2016 Issue

Terrorism Kills 49



Photo Caption: Flag at half-staff on Covington Pike June 13, 2016.

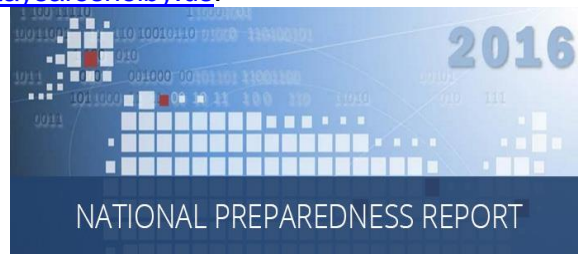
“The magnitude of the recent tragedy in Orlando, Florida, calls for the support of citizens across our nation. We in Shelby County offer our sympathy and prayers for the victims and their families,” said Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.

The shooting at an Orlando nightclub is being investigated as an act of terrorism. President Obama ordered flags on federal property at half-staff. As local venues review their security practices, the event prompts questions about what citizens can do if faced with a similar situation. The Shelby County Office of Preparedness suggests:



1. Remain **vigilant** about your personal safety. Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
2. Note the **exits** of every building you frequent.
3. Report suspicious activity immediately. **“If You See Something, Say Something!”**
4. **“Run, Hide, or Fight!”** **Run** away from the shooter. Leave your belongings; **Hide**, if you can’t run. Be quiet. Turn off cell phones and lights. Barricade the door; **Fight**, if you can’t run or hide. Be aggressive and use any object available as a weapon.
5. **Practice** ahead of time what you will do when faced with an active shooter situation.

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness offers “Active Shooter Awareness” training to any group in Shelby County free of charge. To learn how to survive active shooter and terrorist events, please call 901.222.6700 or visit www.staysafeshelby.us.



The Federal Emergency Management Agency has published the **2016 National Preparedness Report** with mission areas (Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery) showing progress to address the hazards and threats our country faces. The report identified Planning; Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services; and Risk and Disaster Resilience Assessment with acceptable performance levels. Six areas showed opportunities for improvement that include: Cybersecurity; Economic Recovery; Housing; Infrastructure Systems; Natural and Cultural Resources; and Supply Chain Integrity and Security. The report reiterates that we continue to build, sustain, and deliver the core capabilities needed to achieve the *National Preparedness Goal*. While new threats and challenges continue, our country will adapt and address them. To read the report, please visit: <https://www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-report>.



Shelby County is a StormReady community! According to the National Weather Service, 98 percent of all presidentially declared disasters are weather related, with 500 deaths annually and costing \$15 billion. StormReady, a Weather-Ready Nation program, is a specialized certification granted to communities, government agencies, colleges, counties, and military bases, who are prepared for weather related disasters. The criteria to obtain this distinction includes:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center
- Have more than one way to receive severe weather warnings and to alert the public
- Create a system to monitor weather conditions locally
- Promote the importance of public readiness through community seminars
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding emergency exercises

As of May 27, 2016, there are 2,470 StormReady or TseunamiReady sites in 50 states. To find out more or to apply or become a supporter, please visit: www.stormready.noaa.gov

Honoring Local Hero



Photo Captions: Left: June 9, flowers adorn a sign on Beale Street for Smith.
Right: “Sea of Blue” makes their way to Union and B. B. King to honor Smith

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness joins the Memphis Police Department (MPD), law enforcement, and emergency agencies to say farewell and thank you to fallen MPD Officer Verdell Smith. He died June 4 in the line of duty and honored for bravery - defending and protecting the public. Citizens watched law enforcement vehicles flash blue lights in a procession in his honor on June 9.

Pet Preparedness Month



“Pets are integral members of the family, yet they are sometimes the forgotten victims of disaster,” said Dale Lane, Shelby County Office of Preparedness Director. After Hurricane Katrina, 250,000 pets were displaced or died. Lessons learned from that disaster remind us to create an emergency plan for our pets during **June, National Pet Preparedness Month**. SCOP suggests these pet safety tips:

- **ID:** Microchip your pet. Keep your contact information updated. Make sure pets have a collar with a tag (to include your cell phone number).
- **Pet Emergency Kit:** Include: water, food, feeding schedule, medications, immunization records, first-aid kit, photos, (description of pet size, weight, color, and breed), leash, carrier, bedding, litter box, litter, paper towels, trash bags, toys, flashlight, and NOAA all-hazards radio
- **Pet Alert:** Post an animal “alert” sticker on your front window to aid first responders.
- **Evacuate:** Make a list of veterinarians and pet-friendly hotels for pet boarding.
- **Buddy System:** Create a buddy system. Exchange keys and contact information.
- **Shelter-in-place:** Designate a safe place at home with supplies for 7 days. Close off spaces pets may hide. Move toxic products out of reach. Bring pets indoors. Know 2 escape routes.
- **After the disaster:** Don’t let pets roam. Keep dogs on a leash and cats in carriers. Anticipate behavioral problems and establish a normal routine as soon as possible.

Post Katrina, Congress passed the **Pet Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act** requiring local jurisdictions to have pet and service animal evacuation plans in place to qualify for FEMA funding after a disaster. The PETS Act has saved countless animal lives in disasters.

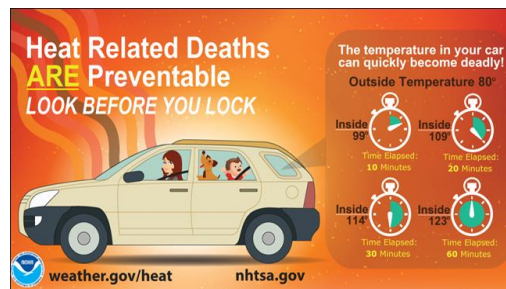
Avoid Heat Illnesses



Summer begins June 20. For many it means vacations, barbecues, swimming, and sports! But summer heat can be hazardous to our health, even deadly. The Shelby County Office of Preparedness offers these summer safety tips to avoid heat illnesses:

- Check the forecast. Upload free weather apps to mobile devices. If a heat advisory, watch or warning is issued, stay indoors during from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (the hottest part of the day).
- Reschedule outdoor activities for a cooler part of the day.
- Be a “buddy” to those most effected by heat: infants, seniors, mentally ill, and physically ill
- Learn heat illnesses symptoms: heat cramps, exhaustion, red skin, heavy sweating or lack of sweating, dizziness, headache, or paleness. If noted, bring the person into a cool environment, have them sip cool water, seek medical attention if needed.
- Wear lightweight, loose-fitting clothing and a hat.
- Wear sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher.
- Stay hydrated. Drink water or sports drinks (no caffeine or alcohol).
- A fan may not keep you cool indoors. If you have no air conditioning, seek out public places such as a community center, library or mall during the hottest part of the day.
- Check the air quality index. During Code Orange or Red, avoid exertion outdoors.

Look Before You Lock!



Temperatures inside vehicles can quickly become dangerous and deadly reaching 120 degrees in minutes, and 150 degrees in an hour. The rapid heat causes hyperthermia, especially in children, seniors, and pets. SCOP recommends these car safety tips:

- Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle. If you see a child unattended in a vehicle, call 911!
- Be sure all occupants leave the vehicle when unloading. Don't overlook sleeping babies.
- Lock the car and ensure children do not have access to keys or remote entry devices.
- If a child is missing, check the car first, including the trunk.
- Teach children that vehicles are not to be used as a play area.
- Keep a stuffed animal in the car seat. When a child is put in the seat, put the animal up front.

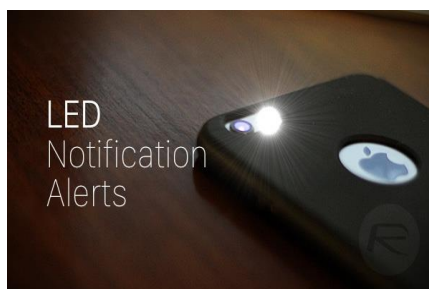
- Ensure your child care provider will call you if your child does not show up for school.



June do1thing: Unique family needs. Every household is unique. Before disaster strikes, take into account every individual who lives in your home, including pets, and create an emergency plan for everyone. Make sure you have food, medication, and clothing for infants, seniors, and those with special medication conditions. Make a list of special items you may need in a disaster and include them in your disaster kit. Write out special instructions for dietary issues, feeding, medication schedules, and instructions for operating medical equipment.

Do1thing offers small steps towards being prepared for an emergency. For more information or to sign up for the monthly tips, please visit: www.do1thing.com.

LED Flash Alerts



Your cell phone can now alert you to incoming calls, texts, or battery warnings with a flashing LED light. The “flash notification” option may be particularly helpful during power outages or for individuals who are hard of hearing. To find out if your cell phone or mobile device has this feature, go to settings on the device or call your service provider.

McKellar Lake Update



Photo Caption: Riverside Lake Marina, April

Just in time for summer boating, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) lifted the health advisory for McKellar Lake after a massive sewage spill on March 31, 2016. Heavy rains caused a 96 inch sewage pipe to rupture and dump waste into Cypress Creek, which flows into McKellar Lake. The Shelby County Health Department worked with TDEC to caution citizens not to fish or use the lake for recreation due to the contaminated waters. Warning signs were posted in the area and the Marina boat ramp was closed. Memphis Public Works has completed a sewage bypass and a more permanent pipe will be installed in a few months. On May 21, the lake reopened as E. coli levels returned to normal. The TDEC said citizens should avoid Cypress Cres until further notice.

Firefighting Barge



Photo Caption: MFD firefighting barge

The Memphis Fire Department invited emergency agencies and the media for a tour and demonstration of their new 120-foot firefighting barge. Purchased with Homeland Security grant funds, the \$1.7 million apparatus will be used to extinguish boat or barge fires using 2 cannons that shoot river water or it will

use liquid foam to fight oil fires. The barge will be docked at the Port of Memphis on the Mississippi River.

Weather Events / Outages



Photo Caption: Flooded yard, Mary Alice Drive, Arlington. Photo submitted by Penny Stephenson.

On June 3, Arlington residents were hit by flash flooding after 3 inches of rain fell in an hour. Citizens were trapped in their vehicles as parking lots flooded, roads washed out, and yards turned into swimming pools. The Wright Medical Building parking lot flooded and sustained roof damage. Dale Lane, Director of the Shelby County Office of Preparedness, was on the scene to check on residents. Citizens are reminded, “when faced with water on the road, turn around don’t drown.” Also, have a plan in place to know where higher ground is located on your property in case your house is flooded.



Photo Captions: Left: May 25, downed tree at Central and Edwin Circle.



Right: May 27, flash flooding on Covington Pike.

National Weather Service in Memphis Reported:

- **May 25:** Special Weather Statement. Severe Thunderstorm Warning. Flash Flood Warning.
- **May 26:** Severe Thunderstorm Warning.
- **May 27:** Special Weather Statement. Strong Thunderstorms.
- **June 1:** Flash Flood Warning.
- **June 3:** Special Weather Statement. Flash Flood Warning. 3 inches of rain hit Arlington. Flash flooding at Airline and Hayes Road, Exit 25 off Interstate 40, and Tenn. 385 at Stewart Road. The Shelby County Sheriff’s Office Substation was surrounded by water. Wright Medical sustained Roof damage and the parking lot flooded. Hoof Burgers flooded. No injuries were reported.
- **June 13:** Flash Flood Warning.

Memphis Light, Gas and Water Reported:

- **May 25:** 3504 customers without power following severe thunderstorm.
- **June 6:** 1,639 customers without power.

Mississippi River at Memphis

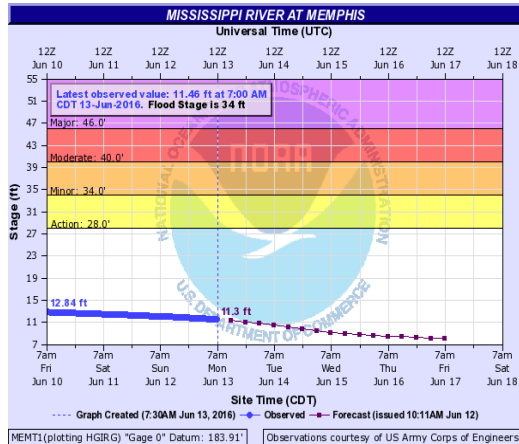


Photo Captions: Left: Mississippi River at the Pyramid, June 12. Right: NWS hydrograph

The National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service reports the Mississippi River at Memphis stage is 10.3 feet on June 14 and dropping. Flood stage is 34 feet. Visit www.weather.gov for the latest river stage information.

Amateur “Ham” Radio News



- **Field Day:** The public is invited to ham radio “Field Day,” at 1:00 p.m. June 25 to 1:00 p.m. June 26 on the grounds of the Germantown Horse Show Arena on Poplar Pike.
- **Training:** Technician Class, 4-16. Thursdays, July 7th - August 18, 6:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. (no class July 21) at the Germantown Police Department, 1930 S. Germantown Road. Free! FCC exam fee is \$15. Students will need to study 10 - 15 hours outside of class to obtain the license. The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, Third Edition, is \$25 – \$30. Email Joe Lowenthal at wa4ovo@gmail.com with the subject line "Tech Class 4-16" with name, email, and cell phone number in the text area to register. The deadline to register is June 30th.
- **Check-In!** All licensed hams are welcome to check in to the SCOPERNET, Mondays, 6:00 p.m., 147.09 repeater, tone 107.2. Ned Savage is net control. The net is activated during weather warnings.

Resources: American Radio Relay League: www.arrl.org. Federal Communications Commission: www.fcc.gov

Training

Visit www.staysafeshelby.us to sign up for **FREE** public safety and preparedness classes.

FEMA Independent Study: FREE self-paced courses. To register, <https://training.fema.gov/is/>

Run, Hide, Fight: To schedule your group for “Active Shooter Awareness” training, email Shelby Logan at Shelby.logan@shelbycountyttn.gov. View the video, “Surviving an Active Shooter Event,” at YouTube: <https://youtu.be/5VcSwejU2D0>

Join Us! Volunteer!

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness is recruiting volunteers. Reserves assist in community outreach and in the Emergency Operations Center when it is activated. Some Reserves are auxiliary ham radio operators who assist with emergency communications. No experience is required and training is provided. Reserves must be 21 years old, have a valid driver's license, and pass a background check. Reserves are required to volunteer 4 hours a month, to include a monthly meeting on the last Thursday of the month. The agency has a new recruit class planned for July 30, 2016. Applications can be found on www.staysafeshelby.us or email Reserve Program Coordinator, Shelby Logan, at Shelby.logan@shelbycountyttn.gov. Join us!

Welcome TEMA Director



Jane Waldrop, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) West Regional Director, announced during the May Urban Area Security Initiative meeting that Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam has appointed Patrick Sheehan as the new TEMA director beginning June 15, 2016. He is the former operations administrator for the Ohio Emergency Management Agency.

EOC Activations



The **Shelby County Office of Preparedness** and the **Tennessee Emergency Management Agency** Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) are at Level 5, Normal Operations, as of June 14.

Resources

Apps:	ReadyTN www.tnema.org	FEMA www.fema.gov	American Red Cross www.redcross.org	NOAA Weather www.mobileweather.gov	TDOT SmartWay www.m.tdot.tn.gov
					

Shelby County Office of Preparedness: www.staysafeshelby.us, 901.222.6700



SCOP@SCOP_HLS_EMA

- Shelby County Citizen Corps: email citizencorps@shelbycountyttn.gov
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): email eugene.jones@shelbycountyttn.gov
- Shelby Cares Faith-Based Sheltering Initiative: email terry.donald@shelbycountyttn.gov
- Storm Shelter Registry: email kimberlyn.bouler@shelbycountyttn.gov
- Shelby County Office of Preparedness Reserves: email shelby.logan@shelbycountyttn.gov

Shelby County: www.shelbycountyttn.gov

- Shelby County Medical Reserve Corps: www.shelbycountymrc.org
- Shelby County Public Health Emergency Preparedness: www.schdresponse.com
- American Red Cross: www.redcross.org
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov
- Center for Earthquake Information and Research: www.memphis.edu/cei
- Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.fema.gov, www.ready.gov
- Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT): www.tn.gov/tdot,
SmartWay: www.smartway.tn.gov/traffic
- Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA): www.tnema.org
- Memphis Light, Gas and Water: www.mlgw.com, Emergency: 901.544.6500
- National Weather Service: www.weather.gov, www.weather.gov/memphis, 901.544.0399
- United States Geological Survey: www.usgs.gov

EMERGENCY: Call 911